

observing laid an egg on my coat or trousers, evidently liking the warmth of the sun-warmed flannel. In fact, she seemed willing to oviposit on anything within a few feet of the larval pabulum. I removed what ova I could collect and some pansies to a small cage out-of-doors, in the hope of being able to observe the habits of the resulting larvæ. But in this I was unsuccessful, as some Carabid beetles got in and must have devoured most of the young larvæ before long. Anyhow, I was only able to find one, and that almost half-grown, on September 7th, hiding at the root of a plant of cultivated pansy. This, however, in view of the unusually cold last half of August and early September, may prove of interest.

ATTEMPTED PAIRING OF SIMILAR-LOOKING SPECIES.—In view of it having been suggested that butterflies, owing to their limited vision, can only see masses of colour, the following may prove of interest. On June 17th, this year, as a freshly-emerged ♀ of *Heraclides cresphontes* was expanding her wings on a small tree in my butterfly-house, a ♂ *Papilio machaon* flew up and attempted to copulate with her. In fact, he so far succeeded that the two remained seemingly joined for quite a minute, after which he flew off. On the same afternoon I saw a ♂ *Laertias philenor* make a desperate attempt to pair with a ♀ *Euphœades troilus*, only giving up after a courtship of several minutes. Now these butterflies are widely separate among the Papilionids, yet, in both cases, the pattern of the females' wings bore a strong resemblance to that of the proper female of the male who sought to pair. Indeed, I have never noticed an attempted pairing between different species of butterfly, unless of extremely close relationship, such as *Papilio machaon* and *Papilio asterias*, unless the colour and wing-pattern resembled closely those of the species of the male. Though I have often had male *P. machaon* and female *Jasoniades glaucus* out together, I have never seen the *machaon* attempt to pair with the *glaucus* (*turnus*), which, though it is more closely allied to *P. machaon* than is *Heraclides cresphontes* in many ways, and is of the same colour, has a striped pattern, instead of one resembling that of *machaon*. Of course, this may only be an accident.

Olophrum assimile, Pk., an Addition to the British List.

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We have pleasure in announcing the capture of a considerable number of specimens of *Olophrum assimile*, Pk., which is new to our list, in flood-refuse on the banks of the river Spey, near Nethy Bridge, during the second and third weeks of September last. This species was described by Paykull in "Fauna Suecica," iii., p. 409, and the following is a rough translation of the description given in Ganglbauer ("Die Käfer von Mitteleuropa," vol. ii., p. 720):—Colour, testaceous-brown, the underside of the body and the abdomen being a darker brown, somewhat shiny; head somewhat strongly and thickly punctured, terminal joint of the antennæ finely pointed; the thorax about half as broad again as long, rounded at the sides, with bluntly rounded basal angles, somewhat deeply and thickly punctured on the disc, with flattish side borders, which have a small pit near the middle. The elytra are more than half as long again as the thorax, about as thickly punctured, but the punctures are rather deeper. Length $3\frac{1}{2}$ -4mm. It